

Minutes of the Meeting of the Beeston with Bittering Parish Council held on **Thursday 28th July 2016** in Beeston Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Councillor T Townshend (Chair)
Councillor J Perry
Councillor M Greene
Councillor B List
Councillor R Kennealy
Councillor J Farrall

County Councillor M Kiddle-Morris
District Councillor E Gould

7 members of the public. The clerk was in attendance.

Min 095/16 **Apologies for Absence.** There were no apologies for absence

Min 096/16 **Declarations of Interest.** There were no declarations of interest

Min 097/16 **Minutes of the Meeting dated 20th June 2016.** Cllr Greene proposed and Cllr Perry seconded that the minutes be signed as a true record of the meeting. It was unanimously **AGREED that the minutes of the meeting dated 20th June be duly signed as a true record of that meeting.** The minutes were signed.

Min 098/16 **Co-option to fill Current Vacancy.** As the only applicant was unable to attend the meeting, it was **AGREED to defer the item to the next meeting**

At this point, the chairman moved to take planning application no 3PL/2016/0836 as the next item of business

Min 099/16 **Planning Application No 3PL/2016/0836.** After due consideration, it was unanimously **AGREED to make no representations on the application**

At this point, the chairman closed the meeting to allow Henry Dennett to update the meeting on progress made by Beeston Community Enterprises Ltd with the potential purchase of the Ploughshare

Mr Dennett reported that fundraising activities to date had raised in excess of £5,000 and that the next major event would be the launch of the share offer planned for 17 August. details of the share offer were currently being distributed to all households. He advised specifically of an error in the offer document as the treasurer of BCEL is not the treasurer of the PCC as stated. Further fund raising activities were being organised and the share offer would be formally launched at a public meeting on 16 August

The meeting was re-opened

Min 100/16 **Right to Bid for the Ploughshare Public House.** The Council **NOTED the verbal report.** Mr Dennett was thanked for his attendance.

Min 101/16 **County and District Councillor Reports.** The county councillor reported that a document outlining the main points in the devolution proposals was being distributed to all households and responses to the document could be made until 23 August. Replies could be made using the form on the document, on-line or by telephone. The next stage would be the laying before Parliament of an order to make the possibility of go-ahead. He advised that the policy for verge cutting for the next two years had been overturned and all verges would be cut shortly and again before the end of the season

The district councillor advised that the annual updating of the electoral register was underway and forms had been distributed to all households. She explained that Breckland Council's earlier decision to not support devolution was taken

because it couldn't get answers to questions about costs of the proposal and money promised for A47 upgrades was not in fact new money as stated

- Min 102/16 **Maintenance at the Millennium Lakes.** A suggestion that the area could be used for dog walking was considered and discounted as it would be difficult to ensure picking up because of the grass length. The council was advised that the land would be unsatisfactory for allotment use. Use as a nature reserve appeared to be the best solution and it was **AGREED to await a response from the Norfolk Wildlife Trust**
- Min 103/16 **Post Box.** The clerk advised that Royal Mail had advised that they had no specific criteria for establishing need for a post box and that resources were used to supply boxes to communities that didn't have a box at all. It was **AGREED that the clerk would check with his predecessor for any response from the MP**
- Min 104/16 **Bench on The Green.** It was **AGREED that (i) the clerk would distribute the plans for relocating all items on the green as had previously been prepared and (ii) the clerk would contact UK Power Networks about removal of the electricity pole and under grounding of cables**
- Min 105/16 **Website.** The clerk advised that he had attended training on the site and would look to undertake maintenance of the parish council section in due course. The cost of training could be claimed from the national Transparency Fund and therefore, there would be no cost to the council for this training. The clerk's verbal report was **NOTED**
- Min 106/16 **Planning Application No 3PL/2016/0526** After discussion about location of the site, overdevelopment and the type of housing, the Council **AGREED a resolution, on the chair's casting vote, to make no comment on this planning application**
- Min 107/16 **Decisions.** The following decisions were **NOTED**
3PL/2016/0653 Ashdown House, The Street - permitted with standard conditions
Y/3/2015/3010 Beeston Primary School - permitted
- Min 108/16 **Report on meeting of Breckland LPWG at Swaffham 12 July:** Cllr Greene reported that the meeting had been advised that rural settlements would be expected to take 5% of the total district housing growth in the period to 2036. Beeston was proposed to retain its existing settlement boundary. He had advised the meeting that the parish council, at this stage, supported this proposal. The clerk then confirmed that Cllr Greene had gone on to advise Breckland that development outside the settlement boundary could be supported where it was demonstrated by an applicant that a proposal provided a net benefit to the community. The verbal report was **NOTED**
- Min 109/16 **Report on the Problems from the Previous Month.** The clerk confirmed that reports from the previous month had been acknowledged by NCC and were under investigation. He advised that an email had been received from NCC stating that the issue on Herne Land had been addressed. Members advised that this was not the case and the clerk will communicate this to NCC
- Min 110/16 **New problems.** Cllr Perry raised the issue of drainage on the Street. It was **AGREED that the clerk would make contact with the highways engineer and the drainage plans would be passed to Cllr Perry**
- Min 111/16 **Date for the Survey of the Highway Problems in the Village.** It was **AGREED that the previously prepared report would be circulated and a date for a review would be decided at the next meeting**
- Min 112/16 **Budget.** The budget had been circulated and it was unanimously **AGREED to confirm the current position.**

Min 113/16 **Balances and Cheques for Authorisation.** The following was considered

Balances :-

Bank of Ireland Treasurers' Account

Balance at 31 05 16	13200.00
Plus receipts-interest- 1.16	1.16
VAT refund	<u>191.47</u>
	15392.63
Less cheques authorised 26 04 16 - 167.05	
cheques authorised 24 05 16 - 411.48	
cheques authorised 20 06 16 - 161.71	<u>740.24</u>
Bank Balance at 30 06 16	12652.39
Less unpresented cheques authorised 20 06 16 - 40.40	<u>40.40</u>
Cash Book Balance at 31 05 16	12611.99

Amount available for Section 137 : 442x £7.42 = £3279.64

Spend to Date : £100.00

Cheques for authorisation: Total value = £358.11

405	Beeston Playing Field Comm	Room hire Apr-Jun 2016	56.00
406	C Brindley	Salary - July 2016	202.11
407	Beeston Community Enterprise	Donation to campaign	100.00

It was **AGREED** that the balances be noted and it was confirmed that Cllrs **Townshend and Farrall** be authorised to sign the cheques

Min 114/16 **Play Equipment for the Playing Field.** The clerk advised that he had spoken to a representative of the playing field committee who confirmed that the committee would not be making use of the facility to reclaim VAT. He had offered to help the committee with any grant applications that the group would be making. The verbal report was **NOTED**

Min 115/16 **Centenary Fields Programme.** The Council considered whether there was land in the parish that might be suitable. As it was concluded that nothing was suitable in its behest, it was **AGREED to pass this on to the PCC to see if they had anything that might be suitable**

Min 116/16 **Clerks and Councils Direct July 2016.** Receipt of the publication was **NOTED**

Min 117/16 **Came and Co.** The correspondence was **NOTED**

Min 118/16 **Matters for the Next Meeting.** It was **AGREED that the drainage issue reported at min 110/16 would be further considered**

Min 119/16 **Date of the Next Meeting.** This had been previously confirmed as Thursday 29 September at 7.30pm at Beeston Village Hall

The meeting closed at 20.48